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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/699,643	11/04/2003	Fangguo Zhang	ZHAN3004/EM	5378
23364	7590	11/10/2004	EXAMINER	
BACON & THOMAS, PLLC 625 SLATERS LANE FOURTH FLOOR ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314				ELISCA, PIERRE E
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
3621				

DATE MAILED: 11/10/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/699,643	ZHANG ET AL. <i>h</i>
	Examiner Pierre E. Elisca	Art Unit 3621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 November 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
6) Claim(s) 1-16 is/are rejected.
7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office action is in response to Application No. 10699,643, filed on 11/04/2003.
2. Claims 1-16 are pending.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

4. Claims 1-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as being anticipated by Boneh et al (US 2003/0081785A1).

As per claims 1 and 9 Boneh discloses a system/method for identity-based encryption and related cryptographic techniques, comprising the steps of:

Generating system parameters, selecting a master key, and then disclosing the system parameters by a trust authority (see., abstract, figs 1-12, pages 1-21);

Generating a private key by using a signer's identity and the master key, and then transferring the private key to the signer through a secure channel by the trust authority (see., abstract, figs 1-12, pages 1-21);

Receiving and storing the system parameters by a user and receiving and storing the system parameters and the private key by the signer (see. abstract, figs 1-12, pages 1-21);

Computing a commitment by using at least one of the system parameters, and then sending the commitment to the user by the signer (see., abstract, figs 1-12, pages 1-21);

Blinding a message by using the commitment and a public key based on the signer's identity, and then sending the blinding message to the signer by the user (see.,); signing the blinding message by using the private key, and then sending the signed message to the user by the signer (see., figs 1-12, pages 1-21);

Unblinding the signed message by the user; and verifying the signature by the user (see., abstract, figs 1-12, pages 1-21).

As per claims 2-8 and 10-16 Boneh discloses the claimed method wherein the system parameters include g , q , p , P_{pub} , h and h_1 , where g is a cyclic group, q is g 's order, p is a generator of g , P_{pub} is the trust authority's public key described by $P_{pub} = s.p$, where s is the master key, and h and h_1 are hash functions, respectively, described by $h: \{0,1\} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}_q^*$ and $h_1: \{0,1\} \rightarrow g$, where \mathbb{Z}_q^* is a cyclic multiplicative group; and

The bilinear paring e is defined by $e: g^*g - v$, where v is a cyclic multiplicative group of the order q and uses the cyclic multiplicative group $\mathbb{Z}q^*$ (see., figs 3-12, pages 3-21).

Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Pierre E. Elisca whose telephone number is 703 305-3987. The examiner can normally be reached on 6:30 to 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, James Trammell can be reached on 703 305-9769. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Pierre Eddy Elisca

Primary Patent Examiner

November 09, 2004